

# Attention MassHealth Members

## Pharmacy Copayment

*Rules effective February 1, 2004*

As of February 1, 2004, the MassHealth copayments for **pharmacy services** covered under MassHealth, which include both first-time prescriptions and refills, are:

- \$1 for **generic drugs** and **over-the-counter drugs**; and
- \$3 for **brand-name drugs**.

**If you are unable to pay a copayment at the time of service, the pharmacy still must fill your prescription. However, the copayment is still your responsibility, and the pharmacy can bill you for the copayment.** You should not go without necessary medications because you cannot afford the copayment now.

**You will not have to pay a MassHealth copayment** for any service covered by MassHealth if:

- you are under 19 years old;
- you are pregnant;
- your pregnancy ended and you are within the postpartum period that extends through the last day of the second calendar month after the month in which your pregnancy ended;
- you are getting benefits under MassHealth Limited (emergency MassHealth);
- you are an inpatient in a nursing facility, chronic-disease or rehabilitation hospital, or intermediate-care facility for the mentally retarded, or are admitted to a hospital from such a facility;
- you are getting EAEDC (Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled and Children) Program services, and are not covered under MassHealth Basic, Essential, or Standard;
- you are getting hospice care; or
- you have reached your copayment cap for that service.

**Also, you do not have to pay a MassHealth copayment for:**

- family-planning services;
- emergency services; or
- Medicare-covered drugs at a pharmacy that is a certified provider for Medicare, if you are getting benefits under MassHealth Senior Buy-In (MassHealth and Medicare) or under MassHealth Standard.

If your pharmacist charges you a copayment and you do not think you have to pay because you meet one of the exclusions, be sure to tell your pharmacist.

The pharmacy copayment rules are the same for members enrolled with Fallon, NHP, Network Health, and BMC HealthNet Plan through MassHealth.

**If you have questions** about the copayment policy, call the MassHealth Customer Service Center at **1-800-841-2900** (TTY: **1-800-497-4648** for people with partial or total hearing loss). The lines are open between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

If you are enrolled with Fallon, NHP, Network Health, or BMC HealthNet Plan through MassHealth, and you have questions about the copayment policy, please contact your health plan.

